



Department of Justice

Acting United States Attorney James R. Klindt
Middle District of Florida

Tampa

Orlando

Jacksonville

Fort Myers

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

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CONTACT: STEVE COLE

PHONE: (813) 274-6136

FAX: (813) 274-6300

**ST. AUGUSTINE MAN INDICTED AND ARRESTED ON
FEDERAL CHARGES OF FAILURE TO REGISTER
AS A SEX OFFENDER AFTER TRAVELING FROM CONNECTICUT**

_____ Jacksonville, FL - A federal grand jury returned an indictment against Michael Anthony Litturi on September 13, 2007, charging him with failure to register as a sex offender after traveling in interstate commerce from Connecticut to Florida, and failure to register as a sex offender within ten days of establishing a residence in Florida. Litturi, age 46, is now a resident of St. Augustine, Florida. Count One of the indictment charges that from about July 27, 2006 through about August 9, 2007, Litturi, who had previously been convicted in Connecticut of the crimes of sexual assault and risk of injury to a child, knowingly and unlawfully failed to register as a sex offender in the state of Florida after traveling in interstate commerce from the state of Connecticut. Count Two charges that in about February 2006, Litturi knowingly failed to register as a sex offender within ten days of establishing a residence in Florida.

Litturi was arrested on these charges on October 1, 2007 in St. Augustine. If Litturi is convicted of the charge in Count One of the indictment, he faces a maximum penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment, \$250,000 in fines, and a term of supervised release of not less than 5 years up to life. If convicted of Count Two, Litturi faces a term of imprisonment

of up to 1 year, \$100,000 in fines, both, and a term of supervised release of up to 1 year.

This is the first case prosecuted in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida under Title 18, United States Code, Section 2250, which is part of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006. The case was investigated by the United States Marshal Service and the St. Johns County Sheriff's Office and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney D. Rodney Brown.

This case is part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, the Department of Justice created Project Safe Childhood, a national initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information on Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of federal criminal law, and every defendant is presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty.